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TRUMAN • EATON • KRYSSING

DEAD CENTER-DEEP AS DEATH

THE TIME: THE DAY
AFTER TOMORROW.

THE PLACE:
EARTH...

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...THE TRANS-D GATE WING
OF PROJECT M COMPLEX...



... HEADQUARTERS OF THE
STRANGE, SECRET PARAMILITARY
FORCE KNOWN AS...



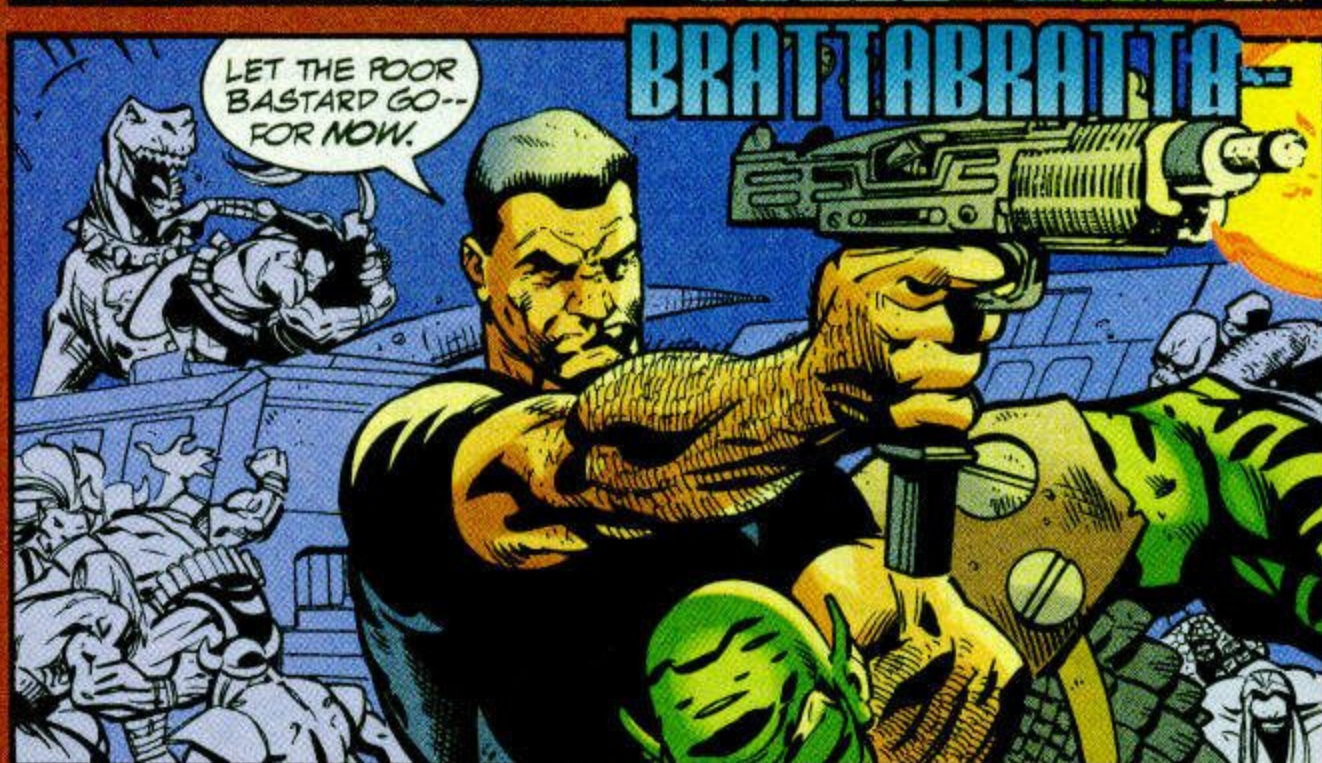














BUDDABUDDA



GO TO BLAZES, CAPTAIN. I DIDN'T ASK TO JOIN YOUR STINKING FAMILY!



OH YEAH, GRUNT? WELL, YOU DIDN'T ASK YOUR FIRST ONE, EITHER.



NOW GET YOUR GOLDBRICKING, HALF-METAL BUTT OVER HERE AND HELP ME WITH THE DOC!



BUDDABUDDA











STAY...

WHOOOM

AWAY...



FROM...



FRIENDS!

YOU... GO AWAY!

BAM

WHAM

WHAM







ELSEWHERE--
UNIVERSES AWAY:

SPECTACULAR!
WHAT AN INCREDIBLE
VIEW! WHAT DID YOU
SAY THE NAME OF
THIS PLACE WAS?

PANALA. IN FACT, IT STILL IS. MEANS "THE WATER WORLD"
IN THE PLANET'S PRIMARY VERNACULAR. WITH HELP FROM
OUR DEAR LORD SATURNA, THE WORLD HAS RECENTLY
COME UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT.

I THOUGHT
THAT YOU
WOULD
LIKE IT.

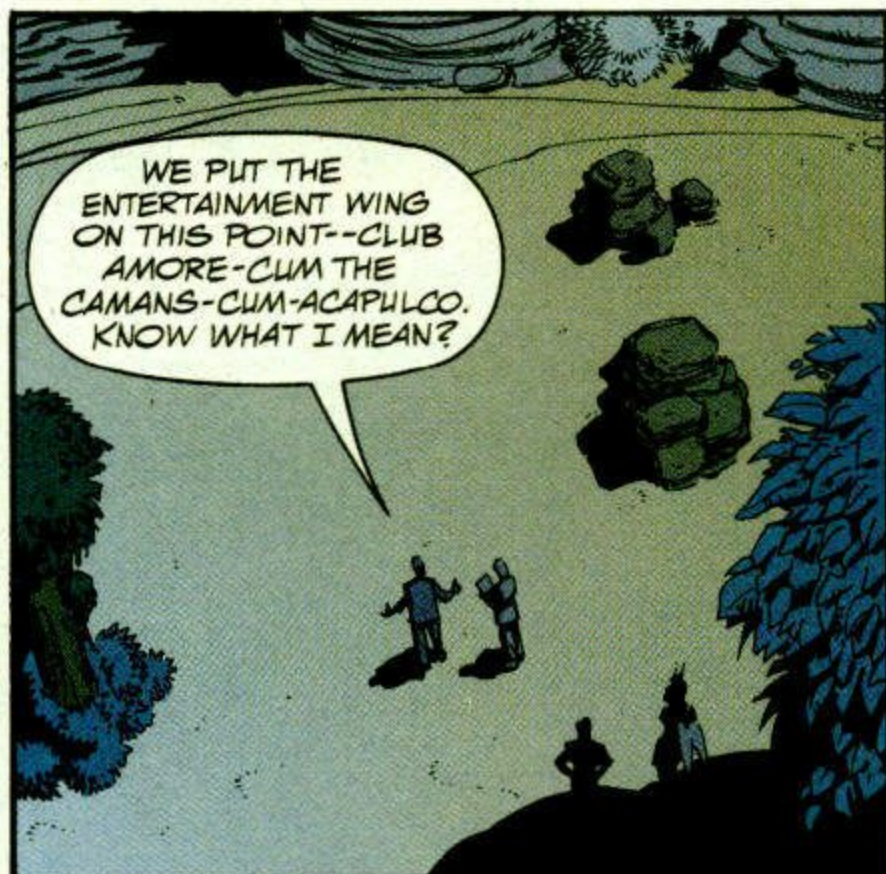
LIKE IT? I LOVE IT!
ANY IDEA HOW DEEP
THE WATER IS?

CALVIN, MEMO: WE NEED
TO D-GATE A GEO-TECH UNIT
HERE FOR SOME DEPTH AND
SEISMOLOGICAL READINGS.

THE MAIN COMPLEX
GOES DOWN THERE--
APARTMENTS, CONDOS,
WEEKEND RENTALS,
SEASONAL LEASES...YOU
NAME IT! TWO VIEWS OF
THE OCEAN. PRIME
PROPERTY!

LOCATION,
LOCATION,
LOCATION,
SIR.

YOU BET
YOUR ASS,
CALVIN.



WE PUT THE ENTERTAINMENT WING ON THIS POINT--CLUB AMORE--CUM THE CAMANS--CUM-ACAPULCO. KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



WHO WERE THE PEOPLE WHO DID THE CORTO SALVADOR PROJECT FOR US?

BENTEN WHITLEY AND ASSOCIATES, SIR?

YEAH, I WANT SOME OF THEIR DESIGN CONSULTANTS HERE BY TOMORROW.



AND YOU SAY YOU CAN PROVIDE US WITH EVEN MORE LOCATIONS LIKE THIS ONE?

OH, I ASSURE YOU. THEY ARE AS COUNTLESS AS THE VERY STARS!



YOU CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LORD SATURNA WITH WEAPONS AND UNLIMITED ACCESS TO YOUR INTERDIMENSIONAL GATE TECHNOLOGY.

IN RETURN HE'LL MAKE SURE THAT YOU SECURE PRIME LEASES ON ANY OF THE WORLDS IN THE NEW CONFEDERATION.



I THINK THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A LONG, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP, MISTER MAGUS.

EARTH, PROJECT M HQ:

UH--
FEELING
BETTER, I SEE,
DOCTOR?

OH, QUITE,
CAPTAIN HUNTER!
QUITE! HAND ME THAT
SCALPEL, WON'T YOU?
THE NUMBER 7.

AH!
THANK
YOU.

SO, I
SUPPOSE YOU AND
THE TEAM SHALL BE
GIVING CHASE TO
THOSE DEMONS?

YEAH. EVERYONE'S PACKED THEIR KITS.
MEDUSA'S DECIDED SHE SHOULD COME
AND SHOW US THE WAY. THE CLONEDOGS
PATCHED HER UP PRETTY GOOD.

YES. WE'RE GOOD
AT PATCHING UP
THINGS, AREN'T
WE?

OR HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN?

IT'S HARD TO FORGET
THIS, DOC. EVERY
TIME I TAKE A
SHOWER, I WANT TO
KEEP MY CLOTHES
ON.



YOU YOURSELF ARE,
WHAT... 75 YEARS
OLD NOW?

74.

AH. GOOD. THEN
I HAVEN'T MISSED
SENDING YOU A
CARD AFTER ALL.

I SAVED YOU,
HUNTER. YOU
AND THE
OTHERS.

YOU WERE ALL **TERMINAL**--
EACH IN YOUR OWN WAY.
WHETHER BY CANCER,
SHRAPNEL, OR THE HANGMAN.

YOU GAVE YOURSELVES TO
PROJECT M-- AND PROJECT M
GAVE YOU BACK YOUR **LIVES**.

EVERYONE BUT THE
GUNNER. HE WAS
ALREADY DEAD.

YES--
EVERYONE BUT
THE **GUNNER**. HE'S
SPECIAL, THAT
ONE IS. DO TAKE
CARE OF HIM.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF
ALL OF THEM, DOC.

THAT'S
MY JOB.

ALL RIGHT,
PEOPLE. LET'S
LET'S GET IT
ON.

D-GATE!
DOUBLE-TIME!
LET'S TAKE THE
BATTLE TO THE
ENEMY!

NEXT

HIDE. WITCH. HIDE.
THE GOOD FOLKS COME TO BURN THEE.